

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C. April 21, 1966. Three major art books, a twenty-five year report, and two summary catalogues are being published by the National Gallery of Art in its 25th Anniversary Year, 1966.

Leading the list is A Pageant of Painting from the National Gallery of Art, edited by National Gallery Director John Walker and former Secretary-Treasurer Huntington Cairns (Macmillan, 2 vols. boxed, \$35). Published to coincide with the March 17 anniversary of the Gallery, it consists of full-color, full-page reproductions of 255 principal paintings selected by the editors. The two volumes, like the National Gallery's collection, comprise a history of eight centuries of Western Art. Their large-scale (10 1/2" x 14") illustrations, many reproducing Gallery masterpieces for the first time in color, are of the works of such masters as Giotto, Rembrandt, Rubens, Poussin, Watteau, Vermeer, Degas, Pissarro, Cézanne, van Gogh, Whistler, Modigliani, Braque, and Picasso. The editors have paired each painting with its history and a quotation from the world's great literature. Thus the reader can view the collection in the company of such commentators as Gustave Flaubert, Edith Sitwell, T.S. Eliot, Oscar Wilde, James Joyce, and Charles Baudelaire.

Two other major volumes appearing during the

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anniversary year are Dutch Landscape Painting of the Seventeenth Century by Wolfgang Stechow (Phaidon, \$12.50), and John Singleton Copley by Jules David Prown (Harvard University Press, 2 vols. boxed, \$25).

Dutch Landscape Painting inaugurates the National Gallery's Kress Foundation Studies in European Art. The book is the first comprehensive treatment of its kind to survey the art of Dutch landscape painting in the seventeenth century. The text is accompanied by 370 black-and-white illustrations of paintings in galleries and private collections of Europe and the United States. Among the 80 artists whose works are reproduced are Rembrandt, Cuyp, van Goyen, Hobbema, van Ruisdael, and the van de Veldes. The author, one of the most productive and highly esteemed art historians in America, has made a specialty of Dutch landscape painting for over thirty-five years. He is currently lecturing at the Department of Art at Oberlin College, and is advisory curator of European Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

The John Singleton Copley monograph was published for the National Gallery of Art as the initial work in The Ailsa Mellon Bruce Studies in American Art. The two volumes represent the first extensive biography and catalogue of both the Colonial and English periods of America's first great artist, and include more than a thousand black-and-white illustrations of works by Copley and his contemporaries. Dr. Prown, a professor of art history at Yale University, added a new element to the field of art biography by utilizing

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the Yale Computer Center to analyze statistical data about Copley and his American sitters.

In honor of its anniversary year, the National Gallery is also publishing up-to-date listings of its permanent collection. The first to appear, a Summary Catalogue of European Paintings and Sculpture, is a listing of all the Gallery's paintings and sculpture of the European Schools. This book will be joined within a few months by a listing of American paintings in the collection. In addition, completely illustrated, full-scale catalogues of the paintings are in preparation, and will appear volume by volume, beginning with the early Italian School. A series of volumes covering the prints and drawings in the collection has begun with a catalogue of the fifteenth century woodcuts and metalcuts.

The final Gallery publication of 1966, scheduled to appear later in the year, is an illustrated report of the institution's first quarter century of service to the Nation.

Copies of all current National Gallery publications may be purchased at the building in Washington, or by addressing mail inquiries to Publications Fund, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. 20565.

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